

with liquid or semi-solid substance, or to a vicarious development of mucous glands. The majority of the pedunculated cysts of the vesical orifice undoubtedly originate in the subtrigonal glands.

In children who do not void until the second or third day, a few drops of a yellowish mucoid substance preceding the appearance of the urine is pathognomic of a cyst of the utricle, which has ruptured spontaneously or by instrumentation.

There are no characteristic signs in the adult, the symptoms ranging from those of posterior urethritis to the urinary obstruction secondary to prostatic hypertrophy. Retention in a man less than 50 years of age, that is of sudden onset and is relieved by the passage of a sound or catheter, is indicative of a cyst. Most often there is frequent micturition, dysuria and difficulty which increases with the act and eventually results in acute retention. Polyps give similar but more pronounced symptoms, because they are of firmer consistency. Prostatic cysts lying against Denonvilliers' fascia may interfere with defecation and cause hemorrhoids.

The cysts of the female meatus, presenting in the vulva and causing complete retention, are hard to diagnose, as they simulate a prolapse of the bladder or an intestinal hernia.

There is no difficulty in recognizing the intravesical pedunculated cysts with thin walls, since they are translucent through a cystoscope, if the light is behind the tumor. Those with thick walls simulate an Albarran's lobe, and in the past have seldom been recognized till a prostatectomy was attempted.

The so-called small cysts at the vesical orifice, which explode so spectacularly when fulgurated, are not true cysts but are lymphoid bodies that have undergone a cystic change and which Pelouze states should not be treated locally, since they recur in six to eight weeks. He described them as small, slightly pedunculated masses of tissue of a pearly white color with minute blood vessels traversing their surface. Apparently they are solid masses of tissue which undergo a cystic change and when ruptured exude a white substance. This description fits most of the polyps in the recent literature.

Cyst of the prostate may be ruptured by vigorous prostatic massage. Instrumentation will often puncture a cyst at the vesical orifice with the immediate alleviation of all symptoms, but in time the collapsed sac will refill.

Suprapubic and perineal operations have been resorted to in cases where the nature of the tumor was not recognized or its removal was secondary to a prostatectomy. In ordinary cases this method is too radical. The same objection holds for the galvano-cautery or Bottini operation.

Intraurethral manipulation is the method of choice. By means of a cystoscopic ronguer, the cyst can be removed unruptured. Cysts have been permanently destroyed by means of the Nitze cautery at one office treatment without the use of even a local anesthetic and with no discomfort to the patient. With a cold snare the pedunculated tumors can be easily removed, but the base is left undestroyed, and there is danger of a hemorrhage. The simplest and

most popular method is by means of the fulguration electrode. Mere perforations of the cyst and the emptying of its contents are not sufficient. The sac must be destroyed and the base well fulgurated. Otherwise there will be agglutination of the perforation and a reaccumulation of the fluid, giving the cyst the appearance of a somewhat collapsed sac. The patients in whom the cysts have been radically removed or completely destroyed have had no return of the tumors.

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THE JUDGE CAVERLY DECISION

Of the many editorials upon Judge Caverly's decision in the Loeb-Leopold murder case that came to every editor's desk, that of the North American is most interesting. We quote that part of this editorial specifically of interest to physicians. The same general conclusion is featured in most of the editorials from the better class of newspapers.

"That part of the judge's decision which has met the widest approbation, perhaps, was his emphatic rejection of the mass of pseudo-scientific testimony of this nature produced for the defense by a group of \$250-a-day alienists and psychoanalysts. 'It is,' he said, 'beyond the province of this court, as it is beyond the capacity of human science in its present state of development, to predicate ultimate responsibility for human acts. Similar analyses made of other persons accused of crime would probably reveal similar or different abnormalities. The value of such tests seems to lie in their applicability to crime and criminals in general. Judgment in the present case cannot be affected thereby.'

"This statement is obviously sound. There is no law-breaker so sordid, no criminal so depraved that his responsibility could not be dissipated by acceptance of the misty theories which trace every human act into the remote past, pretend to explore the uttermost recesses of the human soul and becloud the evidence of acts with abstruse speculations upon predestination and free will in the realm of crime. Once such reasoning is admitted as a factor in the administration of justice, the doctrine of legal responsibility collapses. If carefully planned murder is to be mitigated in the eyes of the law as an unavoidable result of childhood inhibitions, adolescent dreams and lack of emotional control, why not the peculations of the absconder, the violence of the prowling footpad and the activities of the bootlegger?

"But inexorable logic requires deductions still more absurd. Grant the premises of the experts, and one is led to the conclusion that the arch-criminal, for whom there is no extenuation, is the man who kills another in the heat of sudden anger, from motives of revenge or in retaliation for real or fancied wrong; mercy is to be reserved for him who slays without cause and with long premeditation, and who can demonstrate that he is a criminal by choice and life-long inclination instead of through stress of untoward circumstance. His reliance is not to be on witnesses to his previous good character, but on witnesses to his innate depravity.

"Nothing in the procedure in our judgment, was more deplorable than the spectacle of the experts delivering their high-priced opinions to a skeptical court, and we can think of no greater disservice to a noble profession. It would be well, we think, for the societies which are the custodians of the honor of medicine and the kindred sciences to move for a general reaffirmation of the Hippocratic oath and its lofty requirements."

"I have known mothers who were college graduates to put urine in children's ears for pain. I have known fathers who were high school graduates to put warm cow dung on open wounds, while I was at home thinking that I was the doctor in the case," says J. E. Dildy, M. D., in Texas State Journal Medicine.